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February 16, 1996

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

KOON IS AWARDED NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

CHARLESTON -- Mark Koon, son of Alvin and Pearle Koon of Monticello, is the recipient of the national Beta Gamma Sigma Student Scholarship for 1995-96.

A senior finance major at Eastern Illinois University, Koon was awarded \$2,500 and was chosen from over 40 qualified candidates.

Beta Gamma Sigma is an international honor society recognizing the outstanding academic achievements of students enrolled in collegiate business and management programs accredited by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business. The mission of Beta Gamma Sigma is to encourage and honor academic achievement and personal excellence in the study and practice of business.

Koon's honors include the Dean's List, the Espree de Corp Award for the most spirited member of Eastern's Panther Marching Band, and the Phillip Morris Corporation Academic Scholarship.

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KOON

His activities include Delta Sigma Pi professional business fraternity, the EIU Panther Marching Band, Baptist Student Union, Panther Pride Fan Club, EIU Concert Band and EIU Panther Basketball Band.

Eastern, located in Charleston, is a public, residential university that places priority on teaching excellence. More than 11,000 students are enrolled in undergraduate and graduate programs. Non-traditional and part-time students are enrolled in programs at both on- and off-campus sites. University faculty are involved in a wide range of research and public service activities.